



**MONTANA SECRETARY OF STATE**

STATE ADMINISTRATION

Exhibit No. 6  
Date 2-16-2011  
Bill No. SB 257  
**LINDA McCULLOCH**

SB 257: Referendum to revise election laws  
Senate State Administration, RM 335  
February 16, 2011 @ 3 PM  
Secretary Linda McCulloch's Testimony

- Good afternoon Mr. Chair, members of the committee. For the record, I am Linda McCulloch, Montana Secretary of State.
- I respectfully oppose Senate Bill 257, because it promotes voting by political party rather than by candidate.
- Political operatives often call this "Fusion Voting", but Montana voters will call it "Con-Fusion Voting."
- See sample ballot from New York.
- During this session, I have heard numerous Legislators talking about "informed voters." An "informed voter" is not one who makes up his or her mind solely based on political party support.
- This bill promotes the power of parties over the beliefs of an individual candidate.
- When a voter becomes more concerned with party affiliation rather than investigating the ideas, stances and credentials of an individual candidate, elections in Montana will suffer.
- This is why you should oppose this bill.
- Thank you for your time.